foreign exchange for the country. The tourism trade is highly responsive to Government policies and programmes.

Suspension of Vayudoot service to Hubli

1557. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased *to* state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Vayudoot which extended its air services to Hubli Airport for some time, has suspended the same for want of certain improvements at the Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government *to* resume air *services at* HubSi ?

THE "MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (to) Vayudoot services to Hubli were suspended in 1989 as the airport was not considered fit for safe operations mainly because of unsatisfactory condition of runway surface and presence of one high tension line on approach line of runway.

(c) Although necessary improvements have since been made at the Airport, commercial and operational constraints do not permit resumption of Vayudoot services to Hubli at present.

India's share in the World's tourist flow

1558. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that though tourism is among the world's fastest growing industries, India's share in the world tourist flow is abnormally poor at 0.4 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of 40 crore world tourists, only 16 to 17 lakhs visit India;

(c) if so, what are the factors standing in the way of achieving a quantum jump in tourists flow into India, so that it can earn the much needed foreign exchange; and

(d) what are the reasons for not giving greater attention to the promotion of tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The major factors inhibiting the growth of tourist traffic to India include lower levels of awareness about the Indian tourism product in overseas markets, insufficient international air seat capacity to India, inadequate infrastructural facilities etc.

(d) Greater attention to promote tourism to India is being given from Seventh Plan period onwards.

Boosting of Tourism for earning foreign exchange

1559. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1991-92 India earned foreign exchange worth Rs. 3,300 crore from foreign tourists, which is 8 per cent of our total export earnings ;

(b) what are the reasons that India is not able to keep pace with the growth in world tourism despite the economic factor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government announced National Action Plan for Tourism in May, 1992 to boost tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings;

(d) if so, what is the progress made thereafter;

(e) whether any efforts have been made to explore fresh pastures of tourist spots; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

'(b) The growth in tourist arrivals to the country is comparable with the growth in world tourist arrivals.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) The steps being taken by the Government, under the National Action Plan for tourism, to increase the inflow of foreign tourists to the country include improvement of infrastructural facilities, intensive development of specific circuits

and special tourism areas and strengthening of publicity campaigns in the tourist generating markets.

Plot of land for Indian Airlines at New Delhi

1560. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAJL ; Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines had blocked over Rs. 1465 lakhs as security deposit in 1984 for a plot of land in New Delhi for the construction of a city Terminal office;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Indian Airlines has not taken possession of the land in question till 15th February, 1993;

(c) if so, the losses incurred by way of interest on account of this security deposit; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the concerned persons ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Indian Airlines and Air India have jointly deposited Rs. 1465.57 lakh as deposit with Government for a plot of land in New Delhi.

(b) Owing to delay in removal of en croachment, possession has not yet been given.

(c) Loss of interest is notional as the amount was to be deposited in advance in accordance with the terms of allotment.

(d) Government have initiated proceedings against the encroachers.

Termination of agreement in respect of China Town Restaurant

1561. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the Hotel Ashok, New Delhi has been attempting to terminate the agreement entered into by the parties and M/s. Swechwan Kitchen Caterer to run the China Town restaurant within Hotel Ashok;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during tilt course of past nine years the young entrepreneurs from North Eastern Region belonging to tribal community have earned good reputation even from Chinese delegations and from all sections of people who visit the restaurant;

(c) whether the ITDC has, in violation of all relevant rules, gone out to remove these group of people forming partnership for the restaurant;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action is being taken by Government to resolve the issues ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Initially, Ashok Hotel, New Delhi entered into an agreement with M/s Swechwan Kitchen Caterer in January 1984 for the operation of a Chinese Cuisine Restaurant in the name of China Town Restaurant in the Hotel for a period of five years. This agreement was renewed twice in 1989 and 1991 on two years' term which finally expired on 14-1-1993. Since the said restaurant is due for renovation in the year 1993-94. ITDC has extended the agreement upto 31-3-1993.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Proposals for promotion of Tourism in Gujarat, Haryana and Delhi

1562. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of proposals for better promotion of tourism in Gujarat, Haryana and Delhi received by the Central Government during the last five years upto the 31st January, 1993;

(b) what is the number of proposals approved, rejected or still pending, indicating the reasons for rejecting each proposal by the Central Government;

(c) what is the financial assistance proposed to be provided by the Central Government to the State Governments in this regard during the next financial year in 1993-94 District wise/Central wise; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons thereof ?